PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#19 B
Lita
1-29-03

In re Application of
Grossman, et al.

Application No.: **09/596,114**

Filed: **June 16, 2000**

Title: **Novel Vectors for Improving Cloning and Expression in Low Copy Plasmids**

Examiner: Loeb, B.

Art Unit: 1636

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

January 28th 2003
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Signature

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The outstanding Office Action in the above-identified application is dated July 28, 2002. Applicants file herewith a petition for a three-month extension of time and the required fee, extending the time for a response to the Office Action to January 28, 2003. In response to the Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the 5th full paragraph on page 6 of the specification with the following:

B'

Figure 7. BACTAPUC1 (pBTPH1) – Diagram of modified pBeloBAC11. The original vector was altered by including a modified polylinker region (SEQ ID NOs. 7 and 8) into which a high-copy PUC vector was inserted. In addition, by using a unique oligonucleotide adaptor, we have introduced the ability to utilize cloning based on single base extensions. See the AhdI sites provided by SEQ ID NOs. 3 – 6.

Replace the 6th full paragraph on page 6 of the specification with the following:

B2

Figure 8. pBTP2 – A further iteration of this vector removes an EcoRI site outside the polylinker and adds EcoRI to the polylinker. See SEQ ID NO. 9, before, and SEQ ID NO. 10, after.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 with the following:

B3

Figure 9. pBTP3- Illustration of an adaptor system system which will allow for more efficient ligation. A BstXI restriction site is engineered into the vector such that only the appropriate modified insert (ligated with complementary adaptors, such as those shown by SEQ ID NOs. 11-14) will ligate.